(vi) Engaging of services of the experts by ONGC on application of Gel technology on trial basis in some identified wells for controlling excessive gas and water production and conformance control in injection.

Natural Gas to Rajasthan for Development of a Ceramic Complex

3037. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is considerable scope for development of Ceramic Industry in Rajasthan, if availability of natural gas is assured; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to allocate Natural Gas to Rajasthan for development of a Ceramic Complex?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) Currently, natural gas to the extent of 4.223 Million Standard Cubic Metre Per Day (MMSCMD) has been allocated to consumers in Rajasthan. The present availability of gas does not permit any fresh allocation to the Ceramic Industry or other industries in Rajasthan.

Pipeline Gas Distribution System

3038. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pipeline Gas Distribution System has been successfully launched; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) has a large gas pipeline network and is currently supplying around 65 Million Standard Cubic Metre Per Day (MMSCMD) of natural gas to various industrial consumers in the country. GAIL has also launched the piped gas distribution to domestic consumers in Delhi and Mumbai through its joint venture companies, namely, Indraprastha Gas Limited and Mahanagar Gas Limited, respectively.